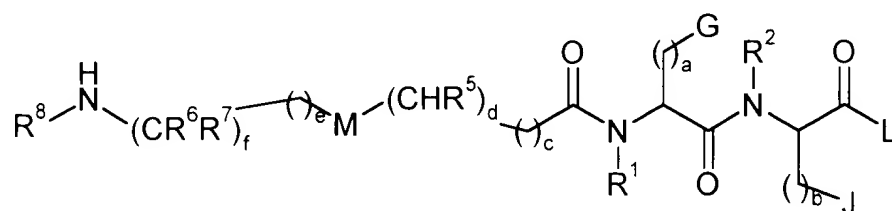


## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A compound of formula I



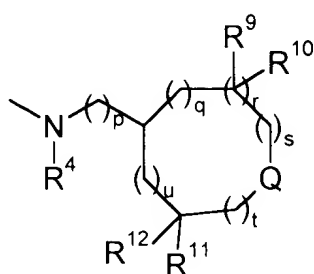
formula I

wherein

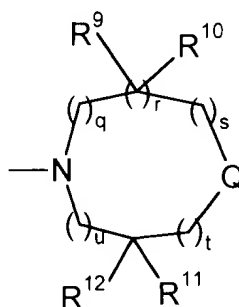
$R^1$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

$R^2$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl;

L is



or



wherein  $R^4$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

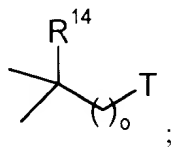
q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum  $q + r + s + t + u$  is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

$R^9$ ,  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ , and  $R^{12}$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

Q is  $>N-R^{13}$  or



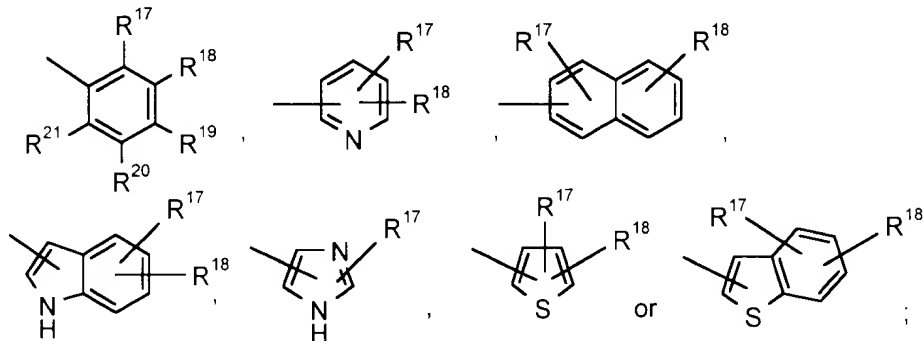
wherein  $o$  is 0, 1 or 2;

$T$  is  $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$  or hydroxyl;

$R^{13}$ ,  $R^{15}$ , and  $R^{16}$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

$R^{14}$  is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl;

G is  $-O-(CH_2)_k-R^{17}$ ,

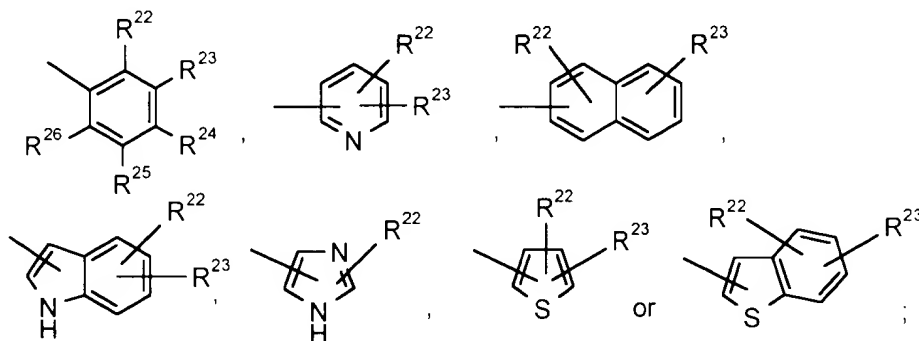


wherein  $R^{17}$ ,  $R^{18}$ ,  $R^{19}$ ,  $R^{20}$  and  $R^{21}$  independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl,

$C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy;

$k$  is 0, 1 or 2;

J is  $-O-(CH_2)_l-R^{22}$ ,



wherein  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$ ,  $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy;

l is 0, 1 or 2;

a is 0, 1, or 2;

b is 0, 1, or 2;

c is 0, 1, or 2;

d is 0 or 1;

e is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

f is 0 or 1;

$R^5$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxyl, aryl or hetaryl;

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

$R^8$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  or  $R^6$  and  $R^8$  or  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  may optionally form  $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$ , wherein i and j independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and U is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ , or a valence bond;

M is arylene, hetarylene, -O-, -S- or  $-CR^{27}=CR^{28}-$ ;

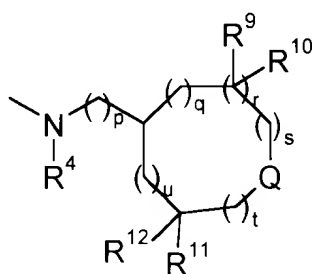
$R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more aryl or hetaryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

3. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein  $R^2$  is  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

4. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



wherein  $R^4$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

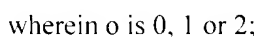
q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum  $q + r + s + t + u$  is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

$R^9$ ,  $R^{10}$ ,  $R^{11}$ , and  $R^{12}$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl;

Q is  $>N-R^{13}$  or

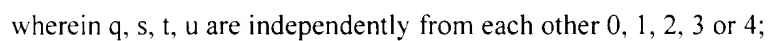


T is  $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$  or hydroxyl;

R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>15</sup>, and R<sup>16</sup> are independently from each other hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

5. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



$r$  is 0 or 1;

the sum  $q + r + s + t + u$  is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, and R<sup>12</sup> are independently from each other hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

Q is  $>N-R^{13}$  or



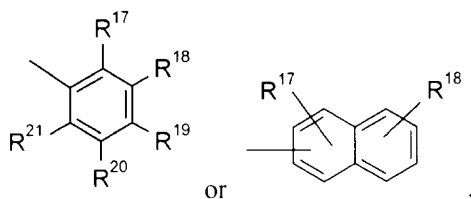
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is  $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$  or hydroxyl;

$R^{13}$ ,  $R^{15}$ , and  $R^{16}$  are independently from each other hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl; and

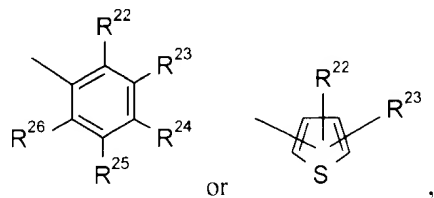
$R^{14}$  is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

6. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein G is



wherein  $R^{17}$ ,  $R^{18}$ ,  $R^{19}$ ,  $R^{20}$  and  $R^{21}$  independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy.

7. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein J is



wherein  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$ ,  $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  independently are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl,  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkoxy.

8. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein M is arylene or

$-CR^{27}=CR^{28}-$ , wherein  $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  independently are hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl, optionally substituted with aryl or hetaryl.

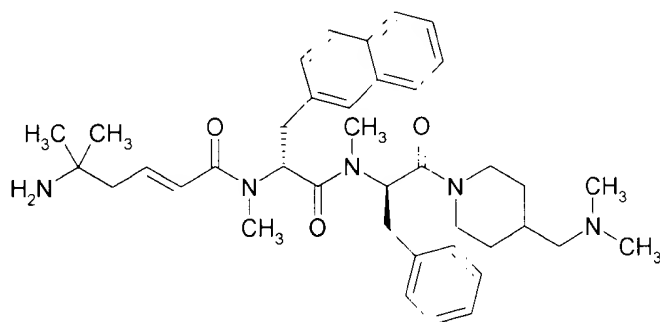
9. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  independently from each other are hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

10. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  form  $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$ , wherein  $i$  and  $j$  independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and  $U$  is  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ , or a valence bond.

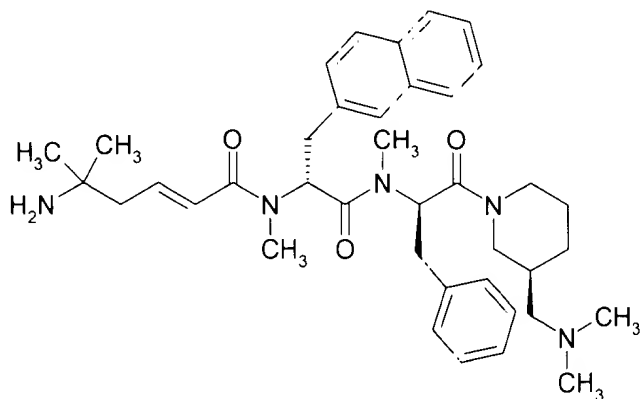
11. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein  $R^8$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ -alkyl.

12. (original) The compound of claim 1 selected from

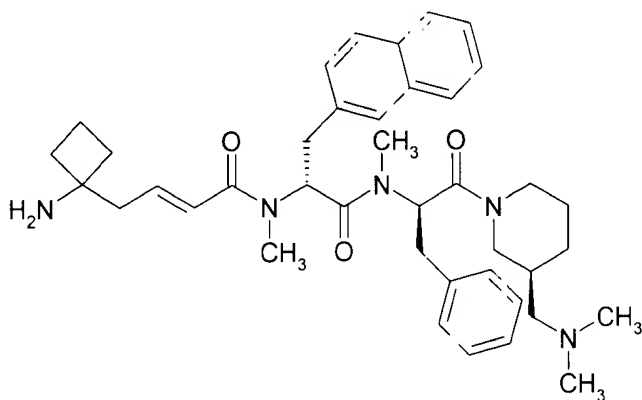
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-((dimethylamino)methyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

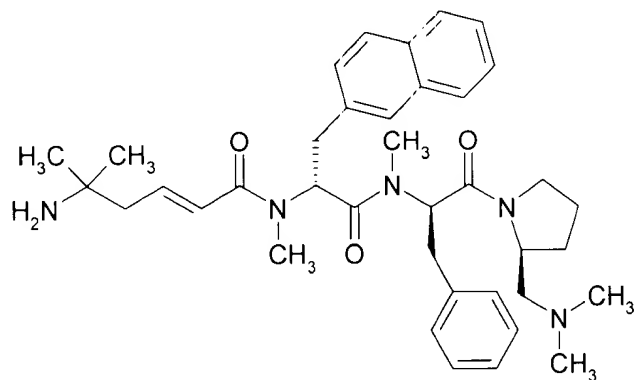


(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

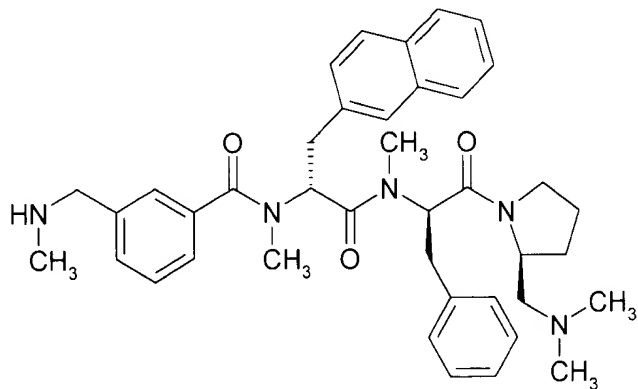




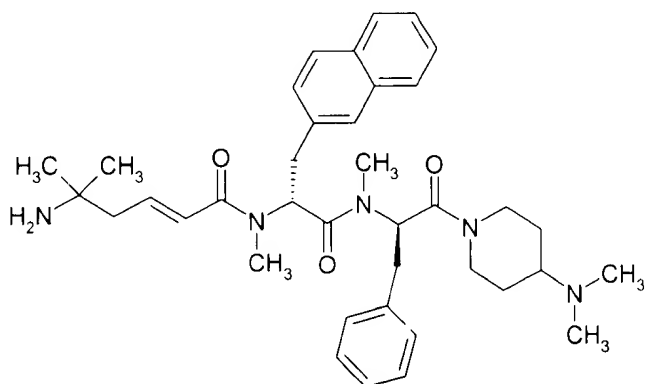
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



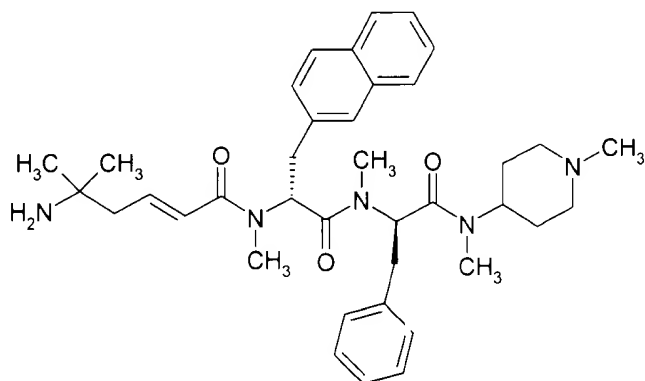
N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-Benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methyl-3-((methylamino)methyl)benzamide



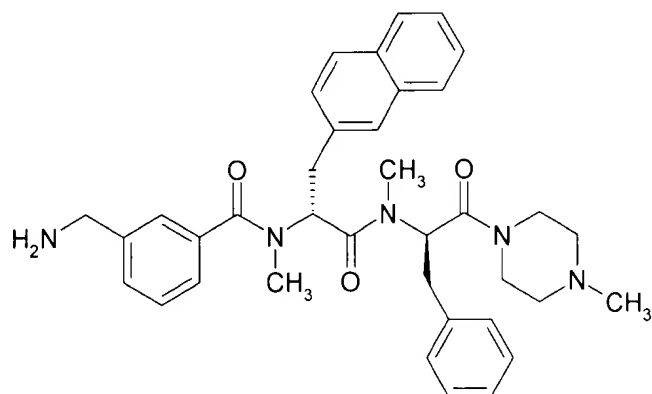
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide.



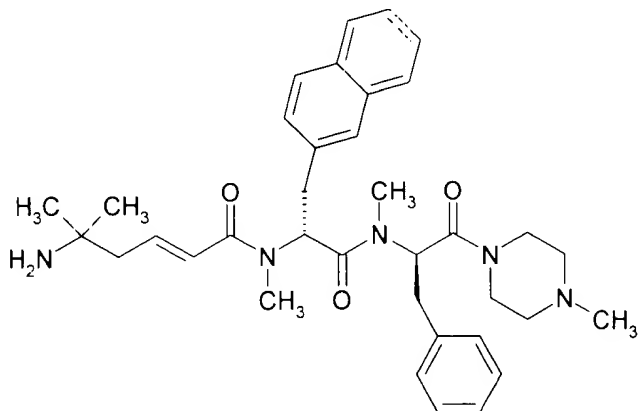
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-[(1R)-1-(N-methyl-N-{(1R)-1-[N-methyl-N-(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl]-2-phenylethyl}carbamoyl)-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl]amide



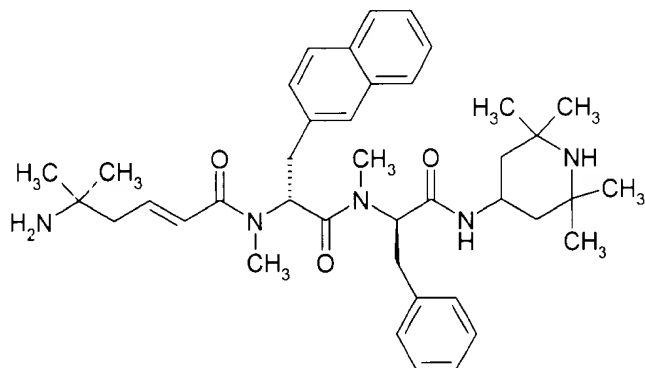
3-Aminomethyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylbenzamide



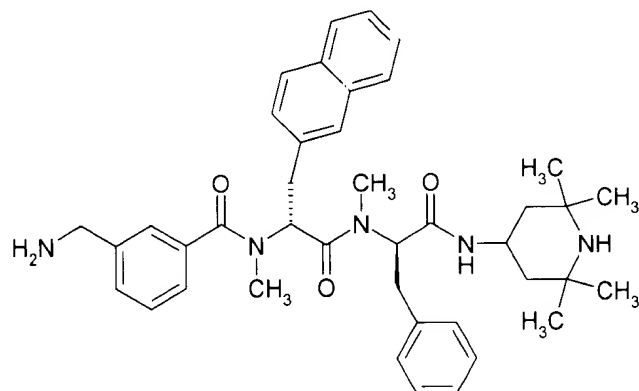
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



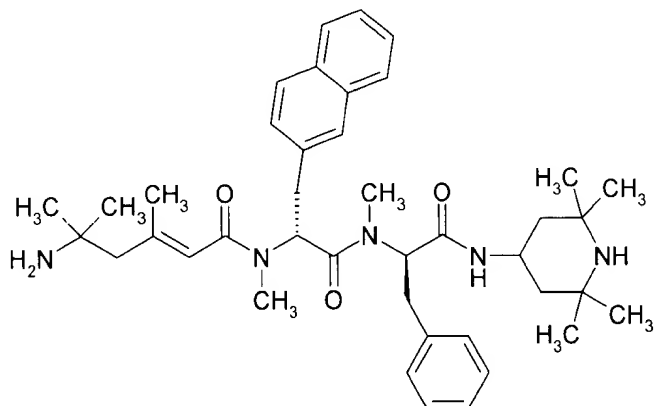
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)amide



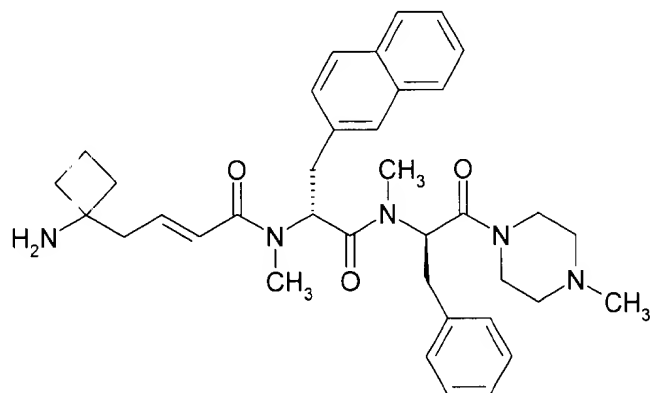
3-Aminomethyl-N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)benzamide



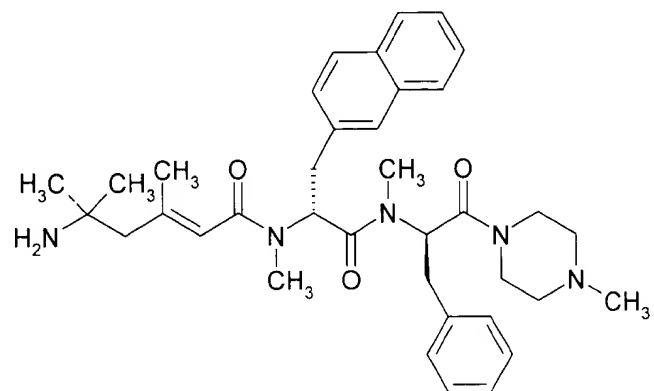
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)amide



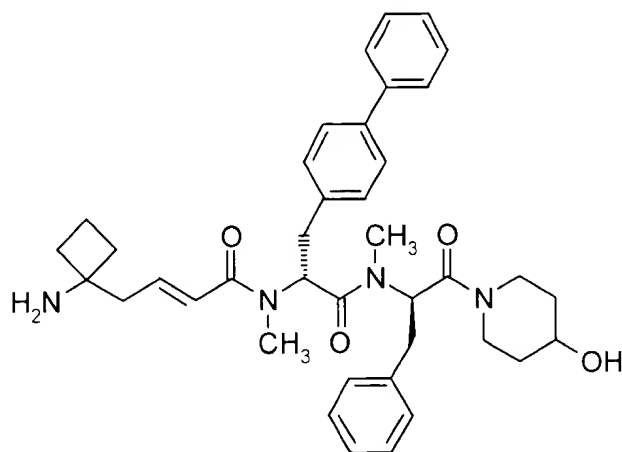
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



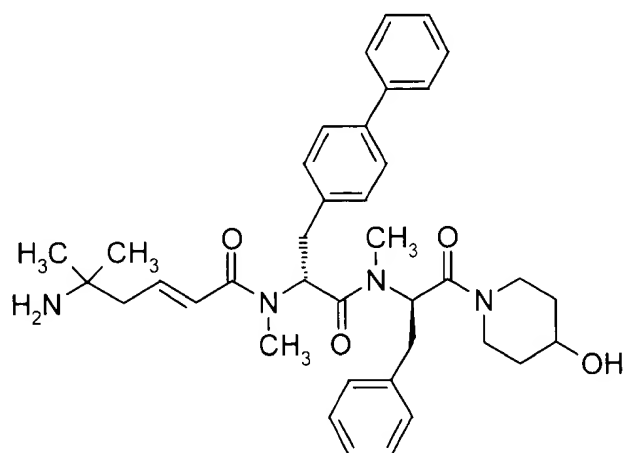
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



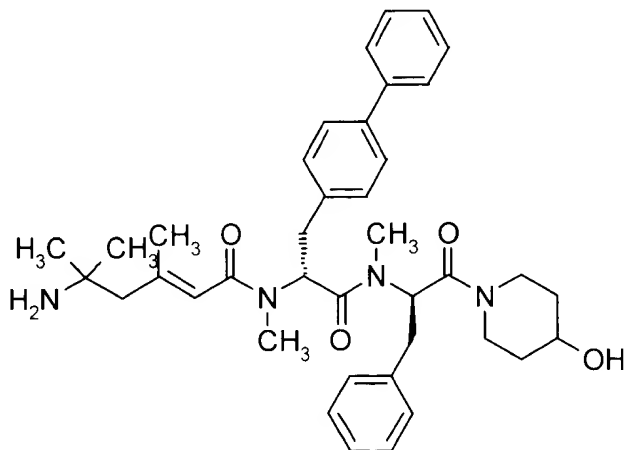
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



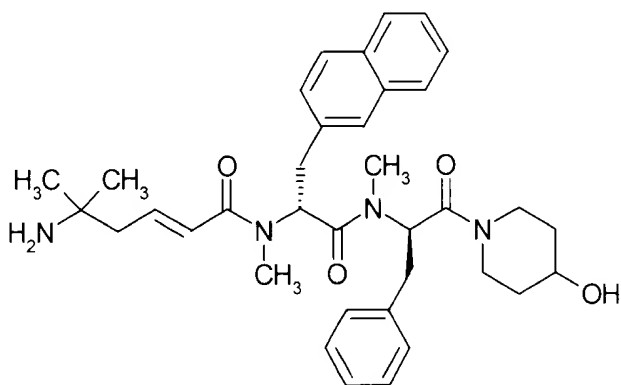
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



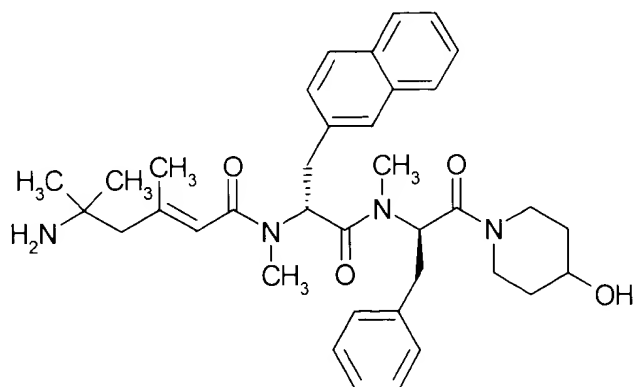
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



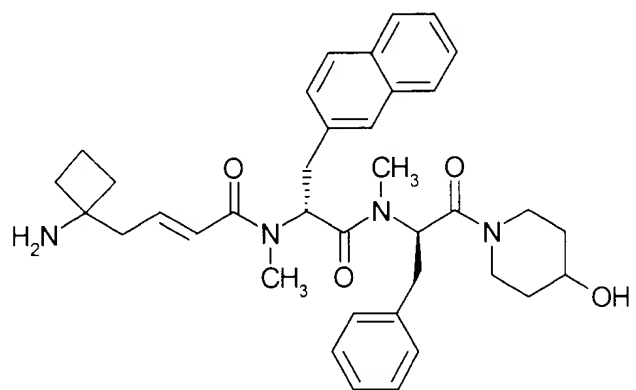
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



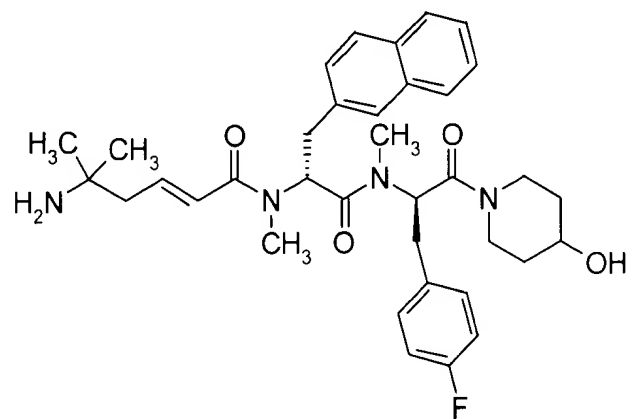
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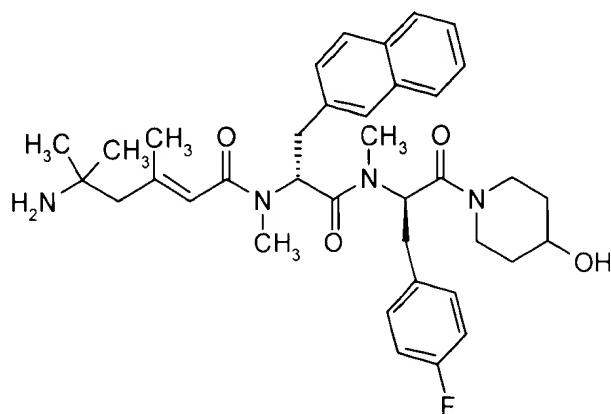
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



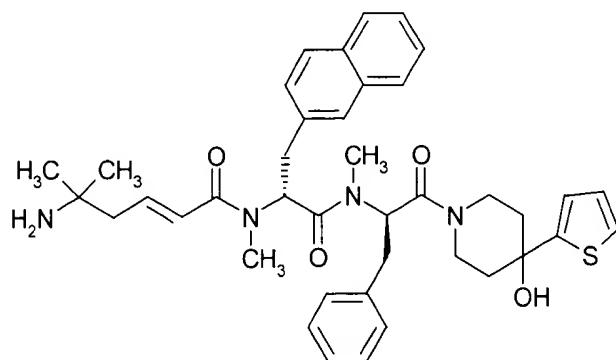
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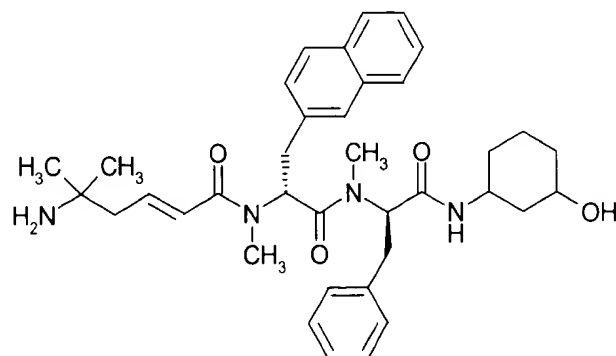
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(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxy-4-(2-thienyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

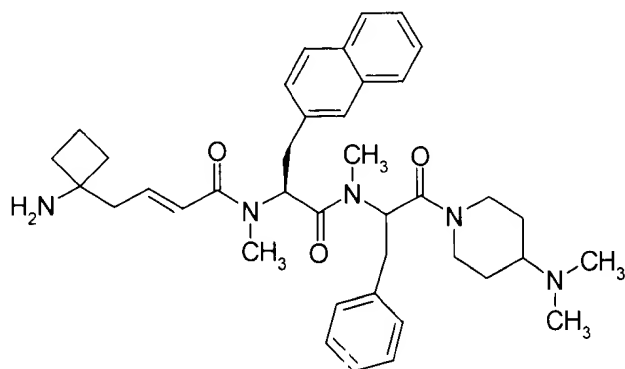


(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(3-hydroxycyclohexylcarbamoyl)-2-phenylethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

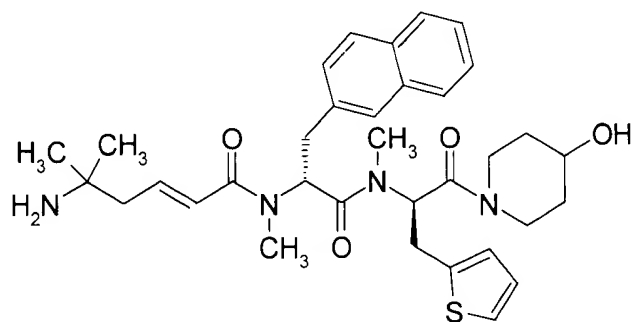




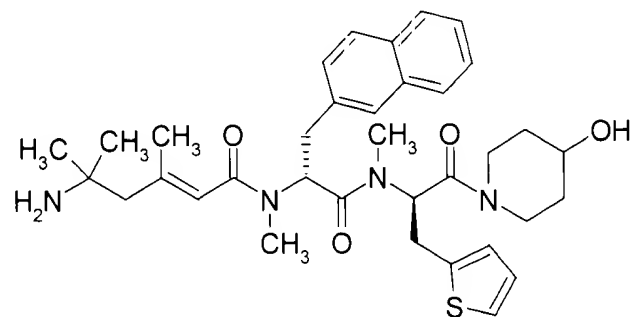
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



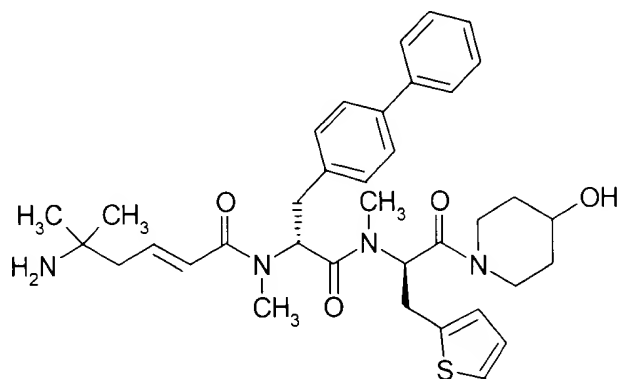
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



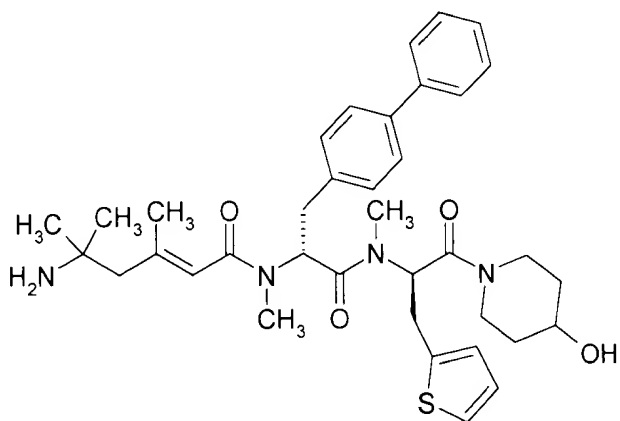
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



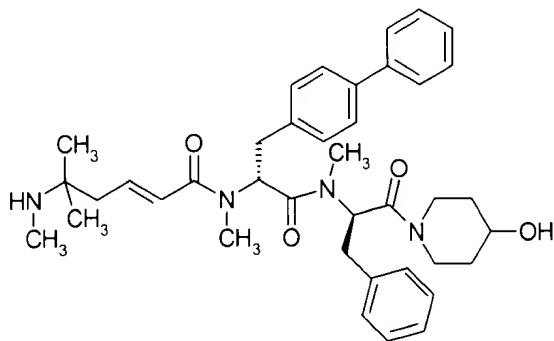
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



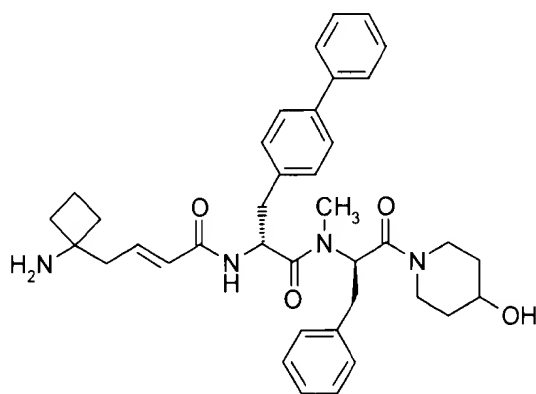
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(1R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-5-Methyl-5-(methylamino)hex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid ((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)amide



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. (withdrawn) A method of treating growth retardation in connection with asthma, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.
14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is a growth hormone secretagogue.
15. (previously amended) A composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound of claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
16. (withdrawn) A method of stimulating the release of growth hormone from the pituitary of a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a composition of claim 15.

17. (withdrawn) A method of treating growth retardation in connection with juvenile rheumatic arthritis or systic fibrosis, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Claim 18 is cancelled.